2. A method for protecting software from unauthorised use , as claimed in claim 1, wherein further comprising the steps of :

authenticating said identity means/information ;

said identity means/information will be determined as existing , if the result of said authentication is favourable and as not existing if otherwise .

3. (second time Amended) A method for protecting software from unauthorised use , as claimed in claim 12, wherein said software desired to be protected being [a] first software used on said processing device for determining third information related to hardware and/or software of said processing device ;

wherein further comprising second software for, when being executed, authenticating the computer on which said second software runs as being said processing device, basing on at least a part of said third information;

and access to [a] third software will be provided if said authentication result is favourable .

[wherein said third software being distributed through a communication network to said rightful user]

15. A method for protecting software from unauthorised use , as claimed in claim 14, wherein said operation being operation related to making payment from an account of said rightful user(s).

16. (Second time Amended) A method for protecting software distributed by a system from unauthorised use , comprising the steps of :

a)   obtaining by a processing means of said system, confidential information of rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected ;

b)   creating by said processing means, [a] first software with said confidential information therein ;

c)   transferring from said system, said first software to a processing device [under control of said rightful user(s)] ;

d)   [thereafter] obtaining by said first software running on said processing device , first information from the user thereof ;

e)   determining by said first software, from said processing device second information related to the hardware or/and software thereof for future reference in step f) below, in response to said first information obtained being consistent with said confidential information therein ;

f)   thereafter, authenticating by [a] second software, the processing device onwhich said second software is being used, basing on at least a part of said second information ;

h)   using, by said second software, a favourable result of said authentication as a pre-condition for permitting use of said software desired to be protected on the processing device onwhich said second software is being used ;

wherein said confidential information is necessary for enabling electronic transaction(s) for which said rightful user(s) has to be responsible ; and said steps d) to h) is being performed without causing a said tranaction take place .

17. (First time Amended) A method for protecting software [distributed by a system] from unauthorised use, as claimed by claim [16] 12, wherein ["said first information obtained being consistent with said confidential information" being the only condition for performing said determination in said step e)] said software desired to be protected being purchased commercial software.

18. (First time Amended) A method for protecting software from unauthorised use, comprising the steps of :

a)   transferring from a software distribution system, said software desired to be protected to a processing device [under control of a user] ;

b)   transferring from said software distribution system, [a] first and second software which being specific to a user, to said processing device ;

c)   [determining by said first software running on said processing device, say first processing device, if identity information/means which being essentially used by a control means of said processing device for accessing in a remote electronic transaction system an account of said user, is present in said processing device ;]

[d)]   establishing a communication between said first software running on said processing device, and a control means of [said] a remote electronic transaction system ;

d)   [for] verifying said [account is] user having a valid account, by said control means of said remote electronic transaction system to said first software ;

e)   using by said first software, a favourable [results] result of said [determination of presence and] verification as [pre-conditions] a pre-condition for determining from said processing device information related to the hardware or/and software thereof, for future reference in step f) below ;

wherein a cost is being charged from said user by said software distribution system, for [the first time] said steps a) to e) being carried out ; thereafter

f)   authenticating by said second software, the processing device onwhich said second software is being used, say, second processing device, basing on at least a part of said information related to said hardware or/and software ;

g)   using by said second software, a favourable result of said authentication as a pre-condition for permitting use of said software desired to be protected on said second processing device, with no charge ;

if the result of said [determination of consistence] <u>authentication</u> is not favourable, repeat at least said steps c) to g) with said second processing device, without re-charging from said user said cost .

[wherein said first and second software being specific to said user.]

19. (First time Amended) A method for protecting software [distributed by a system] from unauthorised use, as claimed by claim 18, wherein no charge by said software distribution system for repeating at least said steps c) to g) .

20. (First time Amended) A method for protecting software distributed by a system [through a communication network,] from unauthorised use, comprising the steps of :

a)   creating by said system, [a] first software ;

wherein "the presence of identity information/means which being essentially used by a control means of a processing device for enabling operation(s) for which a rightful user of said software desired to be protected has to be responsible, in said processing device" ; is being used in the creation of said first software as a pre-condition for said first software to perform step c) below ;

b)   transferring from said system, said first software to said processing device ;

c)   determining by said first software running on said processing device meeting said precondition, first information related to the hardware or/and software of said processing device , for future reference in step e) below ;

d)   thereafter, determining by [a] second software, from the processing device onwhich said second software is being used, second information related to the hardware or/and software thereof;

e)   determining by said second software, if said second information is consistent with said first information ;

f)   using by said second software, a favourable result of said determination of consistence as a pre-condition for permitting use of said software desired to be protected on the processing device onwhich said second software is being used ;

repeat at least said steps c) to f) if said result of said determination of consistence is not favourable, without causing **any** operation(s) for which said rightful user has to be responsible, being performed ;

wherein said first and second software being specific to said rightful user.